

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to avoid having a multiple dependent claim depend on another multiple dependent claim.

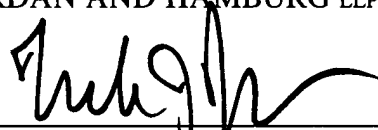
The specification is amended to correct various typographical, grammatical and idiomatic informalities, and to place the application into proper conformance with U.S. patent practice.

It is respectfully requested that the first Official Action be directed to the application as amended herein.

Respectfully submitted,

JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By



Frank J. Jordan  
Reg. No. 20,456  
Attorney for Applicants

122 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10168  
(212) 986-2340

FJJ/cj

Enc.

Appendix I (Amended Claims with Amendments Indicated  
Therein by Brackets and Underlining)

Appendix II (Amended Specification Paragraphs with  
Amendments Indicated Therein by Brackets and Underlining)

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

**APPENDIX I****AMENDED CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED THEREIN  
BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING**

3. (Amended) The method of [claims 1 or 2] claim 1, wherein the peroxide aerosol, before it is introduced into the bottles, is heated to a temperature of about 60° to 90°C and preferably of about 70° to 80°C as the starting temperature for the sterilization.

4. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the peroxide aerosol, before it is blown into the bottles, is introduced into flowing sterile air, which has been heated to an activation temperature and heated by the latter to the sterilization starting temperature on the way to the interior of the bottles.

5. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the peroxide aerosol and the sterile air are kept separate until they enter the interior of the bottles.

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

6. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein the introduction of peroxide aerosol into the interior of the bottles is carried out in at least two separate, consecutive steps.

7. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein, following the blowing in of peroxide aerosol, at least one pause in the action, corresponding to at least one conveying cycle of the bottles, precedes the blowing of sterile air, heated to the activation temperature, into the interior of the bottles.

8. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein sterile air is blown in in at least two separate steps, corresponding in each case to one conveying cycle of the bottles.

9. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 8] claim 1, wherein the sterile air is heated to an activation temperature of about 90° to 120°C and preferably of about 110°C.

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

10. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 9] claim 1, wherein, after sterile air heated to the activation temperature has been blown in, sterile air, which has been heated to a lower temperature, is blown in in subsequent, separate processes.

12. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 11] claim 1, wherein the sterile air, which has been heated to the activation temperature, is blown at the rate of about 25 to 30 m/s and preferably of about 28 m/s into the interior of the bottles.

13. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 12] claim 1, wherein the sterile air is blown in at a lower temperature with a flow rate of about 70 to 90 m/s and preferably of about 80 m/s into the interior of the bottles.

14. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 1 to 12] claim 1, wherein sterile air is blown in over a period of 1 to 3 seconds and preferably of about 2 seconds.

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

15. (Amended) The method of [one or more of the claims 1 to 14]  
claim 1, wherein about 0.15 ml of peroxide per 100 cm<sup>2</sup> of interior surface of the  
bottles is introduced into the latter.

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

**APPENDIX II****AMENDED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS WITH AMENDMENTS  
INDICATED THEREIN BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING**

Page 1:        between the title and the 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, insert the  
following heading:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:**

                 between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> full paragraph, insert the following  
heading:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:**

                 4<sup>th</sup> full paragraph, delete in its entirety:

[        The inventive method is accomplished by the distinguishing features of  
claim 1. For further developments, reference is made to claims 2 to 15.]

Page 2:        2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph, change to read as follows:

Further details and effects of the object of the invention arise [out] from of  
the following description [of the course of, the method by means of a sketch, which  
illustrates the periodic passage of groups of bottles through a sterilization station  
of the inventive type.] and the accompanying drawings.

F-7322

Serial No. 10/089,271

between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, insert the following paragraphs:

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Fig. 1 illustrates the periodic passage of groups of bottles through a sterilization station.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS:**